

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 /067 W
-----171337Z 113466 /50

O R 161945Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3007
INFO USDEL GRENADA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL BELIZE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1415

PORT OF SPAIN FOR SECRETARY VANCE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, OAS, BB
SUBJECT: BARBADOS CHAMPIONS FUTURE INTERESTS OF CARIBBEAN MINI-
STATES

REF: 76 BRIDGETOWN 0182

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. BEFORE LEAVING FOR OASGA IN GRENADA, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS HENRY FORDE TOLD NEWSMEN THAT BARBADOS WAS CONCERNED
ABOUT STANDS REPORTEDLY BEING TAKEN BY SOME LATIN AMERICAN
COUNTRIES ON THE ADVENT OF CARIBBEAN MINI-STATES TAKING
THEIR PLACE IN THE OAS. FORDE SAID THE SUGGESTION HAD
EMANATED FROM THE UNITED STATES THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF ONE-
STATE, ONE VOTE SHOULD NOT BE RECOGNIZED BECAUSE OF FEAR ON
THE PART OF OAS MEMBERS THAT THE MINI-STATES MIGHT NUMERI-
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CALLY DOMINATE THE OAS. STATING THAT BARBADOS STOOD FIRMLY
ON THE PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY, FORDE WARNED, "I
HATE TO ANTICIPATE ANY WALKOUT FROM THE AMERICAN
SYSTEM IN THE FUTURE BY THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING NATIONS."

2. THE BARBADOS ADVOATE -NEWS UNDER A HEADLINE " A
RETROGADE SUGGESTION" EDITORIALIZED JUNE 16 THAT RE-

JECTION OF THE ONE-STATE, ONE-VOTE IDEA "CUTS ACROSS
VERY BASIC DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES WHICH ARE THE FOUNDA-
TION OF OUR GOVERNMENT." MOREOVER, THE NEWSPAPER CON-
CLUDED, "THE BLOC VOTE BOGEY IS UNLIKELY TO MATERIALIZZE.
IN LIGHT OF TODAY'S PRAGMATISM, COUNTRIES SUPPORT WHAT IS
BEST FOR THEM, AND IN THE CONTEXT OF REGIONAL UNITY, THE
WEST INDEIS HAVE BEEN SINGULARLY UNCONVINCING." END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

3. COMMENT: IN SEEKING TO DEFEND THE FUTURE RIGHTS OF
OTHER EASTERN CARIBBEAN ISLANDS TO ENJOY FULL OAS PARTICI-
PATION AFTER INDEPENDENCE, BARBADOS HAS CAST ITSELF FURTHER
IN A SPOKESMAN-LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE AREA. PRIME MINISTER
ADAM, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS THE CARIBBEAN SPOKESMAN AT THE RE-
CENT COMMOWNEALTH MEETING IN LONDON WHEN HE EXPRESSED
OPPOSITION TO ANY SETTLEMENT OF THE BELIZE-GUATAMALA
TERRITORIAL DISPUTE THAT MIGHT INCLUDE THE CEDING OF BELIZE
TERRITORY WITHOUT BELIZE CONSENT AND FORDE ALSO TOLD NEWSMEN
THAT BARBADOS WOULD PRESS THE QUESTION OF BELIZE AT
THE OASGA IN GRENADA. WITH ITS STRONG DEMOCRATIC
ORIENTATION, MODERATE FOREIGN POLICY VIEWS AND SPOTLESS
HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD, AN ACTIVE AND INFLUENTIAL BARBADOS
SHOULD BE, ON BALANCE, A BOON TO US INTERESTS IN THE
CARIBBEAN.

4. FOR USDEL GRENADA: THE POSITION OF THE EMBASSY ON
LIMITED REPRESENTATION FOR EMERGING MINI-STATES IN THE
AREA REMAINS AS STATED IN REFTEL, I.E., THAT THE MINI-
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STATES WILL NOT ACCEPT LESS THAN FULL OAS MEMBERSHIP, THAT
THEY AND OTHER STATES IN THE AREA WILL RESENT ANY EFFORT
TOWARD LIMITED REPRESENTATION AND THAT WE PROBABLY STAND
TO GAIN MORE FROM MINI-STATE INCLUSION IN TERMS OF SUPPORT
FOR OUR OWN INTERESTS AND POSITION THAN FROM THEIR EXCLUSION.

WE SUGGEST THAT IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE FOR THE RECORD
TO BE SET STRAIGHT AS TO OUR SUPPORT FOR THE IDEA OF UNI-
VERSALITY, PERHAPS IN A STATEMENT FROM THE SECRETARY WHILE
IN THE REGION. END COMMENT. END CONFIDENTIAL.
SIMMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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